

president of CVS Pharmacy; and their board and their staffs for their commitment to putting people over profits. As one of the Nation's largest retail and pharmacy chains, CVS Pharmacy has helped countless Rhode Islanders and people all across this country better manage their health.

The negative impacts of tobacco are well known—lung cancer, diabetes, emphysema, and chronic bronchitis—and cigarette smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States.

Taking this product off their shelves continues CVS Caremark's long tradition of helping people improve their health and wellness, and it undermines Big Tobacco's active marketing to future generations of Americans to persuade them to take up this deadly habit. I salute CVS Caremark in their efforts to help Americans live longer, healthier lives, and I am so proud of their decision and their corporate leadership.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR KIDS ACT

(Mr. MESSER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MESSER. Madam Speaker, lots of kids in America go to a great school, but too many kids don't, and that is not okay. The simple truth is that too many families live in neighborhoods with bad schools. They can't afford to move, and they can't afford tuition to go to a better school either.

There is another way. Imagine a system not limited by ZIP Code, where education dollars follow the child and every family in America can afford to send their child to the school of their choice. This dream could become reality under the Scholarships for Kids Act. We filed the bill today. It gives States the option to use Federal education funds for scholarships to lower-income families, empowering these families to choose the best opportunities for their kids.

Let's stop defending the indefensible and start imagining a great future for every child in America.

□ 1215

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS FOR SNOWMOBILES IN MICHIGAN

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the House of Representatives for passing my amendment yesterday, which will help preserve access to the National Forest System lands for snowmobiles in Michigan and across the Nation, the same access that has long been granted for responsible snowmobilers.

In Michigan, snowmobiling has long been an important part of our State's

heritage. Half of my home State's 6,300 miles of snowmobile trails are on public land. Each year, families in my district head into the woods to partake in this winter recreational activity.

Snowmobiling supports our economy, particularly in northern Michigan. Each year, snowmobiling pumps over \$200 million into my State's economy, supporting thousands and thousands of jobs. Nationally, it is even greater: \$26 billion in economic activity annually, and over 100,000 jobs directly related to the snowmobile industry and the over 225,000 miles of groomed trails that people ride on.

My amendment supports these jobs, promotes conservation, and ensures snowmobilers that they will be able to continue to enjoy our incredible winters while preserving the natural beauty of our national forests.

CBO'S LATEST ECONOMIC REPORT ON OBAMACARE

(Mr. MICA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I come before my colleagues today as someone who comes from a family that at times did not have health care. I think we can do a much better job, and we should do a much better job, helping people get health care.

Like some predicted on both sides of the aisle, they said that the way ObamaCare was crafted it could result in a train wreck. We didn't really know, but now we do know. The facts are out. Everyone has seen the rollout, which was a disaster.

Every American should be stunned to see the Congressional Budget Office report today. You should read that: 2.5 million people will lose their jobs. That doesn't even consider the ones who have already been put to part-time status when they are trying to feed their families, make a living, and put gas in the car.

Here we have more people losing jobs because of this. Look at this, how many people will see a smaller amount in their paycheck thanks to ObamaCare.

This isn't a partisan document. This is something that is put out that has analyzed the impact, and it could be devastating.

PRESIDENT OBAMA'S PROPOSALS

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, last week, President Obama laid out a series of proposals: "build new ladders of opportunity into the middle class" and revive and sustain a core tenet of our American system—as he put it: "the notion that if you work hard and take responsibility, you can get ahead."

I could not agree more with many of the President's proposals. Increasing

the minimum wage, supporting job training and education, and ensuring equal pay for equal work are all necessary to meet the serious economic challenges of our time: stagnant wages and the lack of upward mobility.

But the President's push for fast track authority for the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement, or TPP, flies in the face of these reforms. Twenty years after the NAFTA agreement involving Mexico and its \$10 a day wages, we know that the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which includes Vietnam and its 28 cents per hour minimum wage, will depress wages. It will lead to the offshoring and the loss of American jobs.

Raising American's living standards, restoring the middle class, creating American jobs, and increasing wages—those are our economic goals. That is what we should achieve as a society. The Trans-Pacific Partnership fails on all of these goals, and we should defeat fast track.

THANKING THE CLEVELAND/BRADLEY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Mr. DESJARLAIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Madam Speaker, last week, I had the honor of attending the Cleveland/Bradley County Chamber of Commerce annual meeting, where Mrs. Margaret Schenck and Mr. Bob Card Both received awards for their devotion to free market values and dedication to our community.

I want to thank these individuals, along with the entire Cleveland/Bradley County Chamber of Commerce, for their ongoing fight to grow and support local businesses.

Organizations like this Chamber of Commerce show that American small business owners and entrepreneurs are doing their part in growing jobs and strengthening our economy.

Now it is time for Washington to live up to its end of the bargain. We must eliminate the numerous regulatory roadblocks that are being imposed upon businesses and holding them back from reaching their full potential. We know the path to prosperity will not be paved by Washington bureaucrats. Rather, a brighter future will be secured by groups like the Cleveland/Bradley County Chamber of Commerce who seek to foster innovation and empower local businesses.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in support of comprehensive immigration reform.

Our borders remain vulnerable, employers game the system by hiring undocumented workers, and millions of individuals are living in the shadows.

This status quo fails to meet the needs of businesses, is unfair to workers, and is holding back economic growth and opportunity in New Hampshire and all across this country.

Congress must prioritize the consideration of bipartisan legislation to comprehensively reform and modernize our immigration system: H.R. 15, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act.

It has been over 200 days since the Senate passed similar reform legislation, and it is long past time for the House of Representatives to do the same.

Republicans and Democrats must work together to take this common step to better secure our country and to reward those who work hard and are strengthening our economy.

Comprehensive immigration reform would strengthen our borders, combat illegal immigration, and create new opportunities for individual achievement and the pursuit of the American Dream.

Madam Speaker, I implore you: bring this important bill to the floor.

PRESIDENT SHOULD ACT ON KEYSTONE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, for more than 1,960 days, the President has refused to approve the construction of the Keystone pipeline. The President has incorrectly blamed the delay on harmful environmental impacts, but last week, the State Department released a study confirming what House Republicans have been saying for years: the Keystone pipeline will not harm the environment.

The President is placing politics over job creation. On Monday, former Energy Secretary Steven Chu acknowledged that the administration's decision is strictly political and has no scientific backing.

The President says he wants to create jobs, but his inconsistent actions have prevented over 120,000 immediate shovel-ready jobs. The President has said these are temporary jobs, but he is wrong. These are permanent jobs at MTU of Graniteville and Michelin of Lexington, producing engines and earthmover tires for oil sands recovery in Alberta, Canada.

The most environmentally secure method of transportation is by pipeline, and the President should join Congress in developing Keystone for jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

FLOOD INSURANCE RATES

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call on the House of Representatives to take action to prevent enormous flood insurance rate hikes from going into effect for homeowners all across this country. This is about the basic principle of housing affordability.

Recently, I met with Realtors, homeowners, insurance agents, and mortgage brokers in my neck of the woods. They shared with me just how dramatic the impact has already been in our region.

One perspective home buyer in Grays Harbor County was shocked to find that their flood insurance quote came out to a whopping \$13,000 per year. After paying \$600 to show that the property was elevated, the insurance quote was still more than the monthly mortgage payment would have been, and the deal fell through.

This policy has already led to a rapid and substantial decline in property values in a part of my district that already struggles with double-digit unemployment and can't afford another round of congressional disfunction.

Madam Speaker, the Senate has already acted. Let's do the same and immediately take up the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act.

TRIUMPH OF FLIGHT MONUMENT

(Mr. TURNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, my hometown of Dayton, Ohio, is the birthplace of aviation. At the turn of the 20th century, Orville and Wilbur Wright, bicycle repair shop owners in Dayton, invented the first airplane, ushering in the era of modern aviation.

From their efforts, America led the development of an entire new industry. It revolutionized commerce, communication, travel, and our national defense.

Today, Ohio continues to help the Nation reach new heights in aviation and in the aerospace industry.

For example, in Dayton, the field where the Wright brothers developed and flew "the world's first practical aeroplane" is now part of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, the largest Air Force base in the world and home to the Air Force Research Laboratory, dedicated to advancing aerospace technologies.

That is why I am here today to congratulate the efforts of the Wright Image Group, a team of resolute individuals who are preparing to construct a new monument for America to promote our Nation's accomplishments in air and space.

Calling it the "Triumph of Flight," seen here, they will place a massive replica of the 1905 Wright flyer 250 feet in the air above the crossroads intersection of Interstates 70 and 75.

Madam Speaker, this monument's innovative design will remind us of the

Wright brothers' achievements and excite and inspire future generations.

This monument site will honor the great achievements of Ohio aviation and aerospace leaders, including the Wright brothers, John Glenn, and Neil Armstrong.

I congratulate them again on the innovative design, and we look forward to this monument rising between Interstates 70 and 75.

DEBT CEILING

(Mr. HONDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, Treasury Secretary Jack Lew has been urging Congress to act before Friday's debt ceiling deadline, but here we are again with no signs of legislative progress, with rumors of a ransom that Republicans will demand before Congress will be allowed to do its job.

The Treasury Department is once again being forced to resort to extraordinary measures to continue financing the government.

These games of chicken are dangerous. They are irresponsible, they have led to turmoil in the markets, and they have cost our economy billions. We have avoided disaster in the past and I believe will avoid it this time. In any game of chicken, one side always must blink. But what happens when neither side blinks? Disaster.

I ask my colleagues to help me install a permanent fix that would end the brinksmanship surrounding the debt limit.

My H.R. 233 allows the debt limit to be raised unless a supermajority of Congress votes to block such action. This would permanently shift the role of Congress to disapproving debt ceiling increases instead of being forced to approve them.

My approach has been introduced by Senators SCHUMER, BOXER, and HIRONO in the Senate, and has been endorsed by a growing chorus of economists and outside thought leaders.

I urge my colleagues to join me in pursuing these permanent, necessary reforms.

ADDICTION AND MENTAL HEALTH

(Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, Philip Seymour Hoffman, a gifted and talented actor, didn't have to die. His death is all too common. In the past 6 years, heroin use has doubled, with 1 million ER visits and several thousand deaths that will occur this year from an overdose.

This is not just a law enforcement issue but a public health issue because addiction is a mental disease.